

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 EB-11 AGR-20 SCEM-02 INT-08

COME-00 OMB-01 SCI-06 NEA-10 TRSE-00 AID-20 DRC-01

/204 W

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P R 101010Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9661

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 13698

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRN, ENRG, RP

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE LIMITATION ON SHIP BUNDERS

REFS: A) STATE 240156, B) MANILA 12801 C) MANILA 12904

D) MANILA 13139, EL MANILA 13558

1. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN MANILA REFTELS, PHILIPPINE GOVT HAS ORDERED 30 PERCENT CUTBACK IN DELIVERY OF BUNKER AND AVIATION FUELS TO FOREIGN FLAG VESSELS AND AIRLINES. CUTBACK FOR BUNKER FUEL BEING EFFECTED BY SYSTEM OF PRIORITIES (DESCRIBED REF E) WHICH GIVES PREFERENCE TO PHILIPPINE FLAG VESSELS AND VESSELS CARRYING AT LEAST 50 PERCENT PHILIPPINE EXPORTS/ IMPORTS, ALTHOUGH FOREIGN SHIPPING COMPANIES MAY APPLY FOR SPECIAL ALLOCATIONS AND MAY APPEAL DECISIONS OF ALLOCATING AUTHORITIES TO PETROLEUM OPERATION

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CENTER HEADED BY INDUSTRY SECRETARY PATERNO (SEE PARA 3 BELOW).

2. "DECREE" REPORTED REF A IS PROBABLY REFERENCE TO GUIDELINES ON ALLOCATIONS OF FUEL TO OVERSEAS SHIPPING (PARA 4, REF E) WHICH WERE FINALLY ISSUED BY BUREAU OF CUSTOMS DECEMBER 10 (DATED DEC 8) AND WHICH DO NOT DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM INSTRUCTIONS UNDER WHICH CUSTOMS HAS BEEN ALLOCATING BUNKER FUEL IN RECENT WEEKS. TEXT OF GUIDELINES SENT SEPTEL.

3. GOP HAS ESTABLISHED PETROLEUM OPERATIONS CENTER (REF D) TO WHICH ALL CASES NOT COVERED BY GUIDELINES ARE REFERRED BY CUSTOMS OR TO WHICH SHIPPING COMPANIES MAY APPEAL DECISIONS BY CUSTOMS. OPERATIONS CENTER CAN AUTHORIZE SPECIAL ALLOCATIONS AND IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE MADE SUCH ALLOCATIONS ON AN INFORMAL BASIS TO RELIEVE BUNKERING PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY INDIVIDUAL FOREIGN-FLAG VESSELS, E.G. EVERETT LINE (US-OWNED) LIBERIAN-FLAG SHIPS CARRYING BANANA EXPORTS TO JAPAN. HOWEVER, WE EXPECT CAREFUL SCREENING OF BUNKERING REQUESTS IN LIGHT OF PHILIPPINE TRADE INTERESTS.

4. EMBASSY WILL DISCUSS WITH PATERNO DISCRIMINATORY ASPECTS OF CURRENT GOP GUIDELINES AND POSSIBLE RETALIATORY ACTION BY US AND OTHER FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. WE ALSO ASSESSING SCOPE OF PHILIPPINE BUNKERING PROBLEMS AS IT AFFECTS US FLAG VESSELS. SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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